

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of September 24 - September 28, 2007**

1. **Takoma Metro:** Comments on the WMATA Staff Report regarding the proposed sale of land and transit changes at the Takoma Metro station are due to WMATA by 2 pm, Friday, October 5. The WMATA Planning, Development and Real Estate Committee could approve the Staff Report at their meeting on October 11, with action by the full Board on October 25. For more information, go to the City's web page: www.takomaparkmd.gov. (*Community & Government Liaison*)

2. **The Chief in Meetings:**

- On September 24, Chief Ricucci and CSAFE Program Director, Mary Kendall, attended a meeting with CSAFE Partners from the Takoma-Langley CDA, Prince George's County Police Department and Prince George's County Executive's Office to discuss effective ways to build upon the CSAFE Program.
- On September 25 and 26, Chief Ricucci attended the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) National Violent Crime Summit in Chicago. He met with police chiefs and political leaders to discuss the crime rate in America.
- On September 27, Chief Ricucci and his assistant, Catherine Plevy, met with Ms. Eileen Sobeck, President of the SS Carroll Neighborhood Association, to meet members of the Association and answer various questions of the citizens regarding the police department.
- On September 28, Chief Ricucci met with Prince George's County and Pfc. Eric Mueller on CSAFE's Alcohol Enforcement Details. Chief Ricucci also attended the Interfaith Service for police officers in Takoma Park, Maryland. (*Police*)

3. **Officers in Training:**

- On September 27, Capt. Coursey, Lt. Cipperly, Sgt. Frishkorn, Cpl. Erwin, Cpl. Smith, Pfc. Fields, Pfc. Black, Ms. Dean, Disp. Matthews, Ms. Thompkins, Ms. Toler and Mr. Rojas attended CPR/AED training in Takoma Park, Maryland.
- On September 27, A/Lt. Collington attended a Computer Crimes seminar in Sykesville, Maryland.
- On September 28, Ms. Dean attended training entitled "Domestic Violence in Plain Sight" in Baltimore, Maryland.
- On September 29, Ms. Cubillo attended CPR/AED training in Takoma Park, Maryland. (*Police*)

4. **Traffic Enforcement:** Officers conducted at least 100 traffic stops this week, which resulted in some citations and five vehicle impounds. (*Police*)

5. **New Staff Members:** The Takoma Park Recreation Department would like to welcome three new staff to Morning and Afternoon Addition. Dana Jackson, Before/After School Specialist; Marina Nalvarte and Shankia Warren, Program Assistants. We are very excited to have them on board! Their experience and creativity will help build on the success of these programs. (*Recreation*)

6. **Teen Staff Attends Youth Conference:** Karla Kelley, Recreation Manager for Teen Programs, recently attended the Youth Services Summit held in Arlington, Virginia, sponsored by The Performance Institute. The conference focused on promoting positive youth development outcomes for youth. Karla attended sessions on Effective Grant Application, Strategies for Engaging the Business Community in Your Youth Programs, and Retaining Youth

in Your Youth Programs. There were many inspiring hands-on ideas that Karla hopes to be able to bring back and implement in the Takoma Park teen program. (*Recreation*)

7. Takoma /Langley Park Transit Center (Ward 6): City staff attended an informational meeting hosted by Maryland Transit Administration for representatives of the various planning, transit and transportation agencies participating in the development of the proposed transit center. An update on the status of the project and its vertical and horizontal features was provided. The community will be provided an opportunity to learn more about the status of the project later this fall. A public meeting is tentatively scheduled for November. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available. (*Housing and Community Development*)

8. Community Legacy (City-Wide): HCD staff, working in partnership with Main Street Takoma and Historic Takoma, finalized the City's application for Community Legacy grant funds this week. The Community Legacy program assists neighborhoods that are at risk of physical, economic, or social deterioration with funding to implement projects that fit into an overall revitalization strategy. (*Housing and Community Development*)

9. Walk to School Day - Wednesday, October 3rd (City-Wide): Walk your child to school! In the U.S., International Walk to School Day is expected to include 5,000 schools from 50 states. More than 600 students from Piney Branch Elementary School, Takoma Park Elementary School, East Silver Spring Elementary School and Rolling Terrace Elementary School will be walking to school on Wednesday, October 3. Many events will have prizes supplied by the Takoma Safe Routes to School program (SRTS), such as bicycle helmets and safety reflectors for your children. Takoma Park Elementary School will be meeting in front of the Municipal Building at 8:20 a.m.. Takoma Park Police will escort the children and parents to school and give a brief presentation.

Piney Branch Elementary School students, parents and staff will meet at 7620 Maple Ave at 8:30 a.m.. The school buses will drop riders off to join their peers. They will walk with a Takoma Park Police escort and enjoy a presentation by a police officer in front of the school starting at 9:10 a.m.. East Silver Spring Elementary School has partnered with the Silver Spring Police Department. After refreshments at the station, participants will walk to school with police escort and enjoy a short presentation on pedestrian safety when they arrive. The Gazette has agreed to send a reporter and photographer. Rolling Terrace Elementary School students, parents and staff will meet at Garland Park at 8:00 a.m. for refreshments. Local grocery stores have donated breakfast bars, water and fruit. At 8:30 a.m. they will walk together to school. SRTS supplied bike helmets will be raffled off.

For more information please contact the Takoma Safe Routes to School Coordinator at lucyn@takomagov.org or 301- 891-7220. (*Housing and Community Development*)

10. New Exhibits Director: The Arts and Humanities Commission (AHC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. David Fogel as the new Exhibits Director. Mr. Fogel, recent Director of the Heliport Gallery and instrumental in the development of the popular Silver Spring Arts Walk, will assume responsibility for the coordination and promotion of AHC sponsored exhibits in the Atrium and Richard Dempsey Memorial Galleries on October 1. The position was previously held by Ms. Stephanie Ney, whose appointment recently ended. If you are interested in exhibiting your work at the community center, please contact Sara Anne Daines at 301-891-7224 or by email at Sarad@Takomagov.org. (*Housing and Community Development*)

11. Your Rights as a Tenant in Takoma Park (City Wide): The first class on "Your Rights as a Tenant" was held on Thursday, September 27 and was well attended by tenants residing in various rental properties in Takoma Park. The discussion focused on issues such as security deposits, a landlord's right to enter a rental unit, the new rent stabilization law and a tenant's rights when a property is being renovated or converted to a condominium. The same class is being offered on Wednesday, October 24, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center. Anyone interested in attending should call 301-891-7222 to register. *(Housing and Community Development)*

12. Housing Forum - "Can I Stay or Must I Go?": Housing staff attended an AARP sponsored forum this past week on options for senior housing. Speakers from various housing organizations whose goal is to provide affordable housing for seniors were there to discuss how they maintain sufficient affordable rental housing in their communities. Among the attendees were Neighborhood Works America, Enterprise Community Partners, the National Association of Home Builders and Habitat for Humanity. *(Housing and Community Development)*

13. Life Safety Conference: Code Enforcement staff attended the 2007 Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference in Laurel on Tuesday, September 25. Hosted by the University of Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, the one day conference featured a variety of presenters with topics ranging from the legal aspects of code enforcement to fire protection in multi-family housing. *(Housing and Community Development)*

14. Golf Tournament: The Mike Morrissey charity golf tournament was held September 17 in Rockville. Library staffers Nic Fontem, Gene Miller and Dave Burbank played under the sponsorship of the Friends of the Library and Board member Josh Wright. Ellen and Dave attended the celebration and auction afterwards, and learned that funds raised for the Library are expected to rival last year's total. *(Library)*

15. Book Sale: The Library is accepting donations for the next Friends' book sale scheduled for Saturday, November 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Depending on the weather, it will be held on the lawn in front of the Library or in the Council Chambers in the Community Center. The Friends always need volunteers on the day of the sale. This is a great chance to support the Library and the Friends, and community service hours are available for students who can lift and carry! Contact Ellen Robbins at the Library for more information 301-891-7259. *(Library)*

16. Teen Read Week: Middle and high school students are invited to participate in a contest in honor of Teen Read Week., October 14 - 20. Tell us what your favorite young adult books are and you may win an iTunes gift card or 10 new YA books! *(Library)*

17. College Bound: High School students and their parents are invited to attend the Library's College Bound Speakers series, to be held three Thursday evenings in October. Get advice from the experts! Dr. Lori Potts-Dupre discusses the college selection process on October 11, Dr. Ilhan Cagri demystifies the SATs on October 18, and Dr. Herm Davis gives advice on the financial aid process on October 25th. Call the Library to register or for more information. All programs free. *(Library)*

18. Spanish Programs: Spanish programs for pre-schoolers resumed in September, and will be held Thursdays at 10 a.m. through the school year. Featuring story-telling and games with Lupe Marks, these programs are supported by the Friends of the Library. *(Library)*

19. **The Reading Group:** The next meeting of the Friends Reading Group will be held Tuesday, November 13, and will feature a discussion of David Malouf's "Remembering Babylon". Copies of the books will be available in the Library in early October. Call the Library for more information. Open to all! *(Library)*

20. **T(w)een Book Club:** The first meeting of the Library's new "T(w)een Book Club" for middle schoolers will be held Thursday, October 18 from 5 -6 p.m. Participants make their own ice-cream sundaes. Only 10 may sign up! Call 301-891-7259 to register and get your copy of "12 Again" by Sue Corbett. *(Library)*

21. **Halloween Stories:** Scary Halloween stories return with Candace Wolf on October 29. Call the Library to pre-register. For elementary age children of older. *(Library)*

22. **What's on City TV?:** Communications Office photographers and video crew will be busy next week covering the Council meeting on Monday night, the Nominating Caucus on Tuesday night, the Safe Routes to School event on Wednesday morning, the CASA press conference with Governor O'Malley at noon, and the City Gardener's activities with the CUC Community Service Day team in the afternoon. Then Sunday, October 7, City TV will be covering the Street Festival all day. *(City TV)*

23. **NATOA:** Next week Communications Director Lonni Moffet will be attending the national NATOA conference in Portland Oregon. *(City TV)*

24. **The Newsletter:** The October Newsletter was delivered to the Post Office today for delivery over the next few days, and is posted to the website at www.takomaparkmd.gov/news/newsletter. *(City TV)*